★★★★

SURDYK'S SETS THE TABLE
Landmark to start eat-in restaurant
BUSINESS

EARLY MAHOMES MAGIC
He stood out even as little Twins fan
SPORTS

FRIDAY
January 31, 2020

StarTribune

2019 LOCAL NEWS PULITZER FINALIST

33° 26°
Thick inch of slush, warmer weekend. **B6**

TOP NEWS

LAWSUIT CALLS FOR THE ERA

Three states argue the rights amendment should now be added to the Constitution. **A4**

Medicaid in Trump's sights
States could slash benefits for millions gained by Obamacare. **A4**

Va. approves gun measures
Lawmakers pass 7 laws long opposed by Republicans. **A2**

Saints admit aiding clergy
Team claims PR work for priests minimal; advocates disagree. **A2**

Warner's past preserved
Nature center's records archived for potential future revival. **B1**

LOCAL NEWS

Insulin battle dragging on
Deaths of diabetics failing to move state lawmakers into action. **B1**

St. Paul adds 38 officers
Most diverse class in police department's history graduates. **B1**

SPORTS

'Old' freshman a spark for U
The ascent of Ben Meyers, 21, coincides with surge of hockey team. **C5**

Poor shooting hurts Gophers
U men hold down Illini's hot offense but fall 59-51. **C1**

BUSINESS

Delta agrees to new uniforms
Employees had said new outfits were making them sick. **D1**

VARIETY

Don't be that (concert) guy
Music shows should be fun, but can't we all just get along? **E1**

HAVE YOU HEARD?
A columnist who has sued President Trump over a rape allegation is seeking his DNA to back her case. **A4**

Votes tip against calling witnesses

Split decisions by 2 GOP senators undercut Democratic push for impeachment testimony.

By LISA MASCARO, ERIC TUCKER and ZEKE MILLER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON – Republican Sen. Lamar Alexander of Tennessee declared late Thursday he will oppose calling more witnesses in President Donald Trump's impeachment trial, all but dashing Democratic efforts to hear more testimony and boosting chances the Senate will vote quickly to acquit the president.

The retiring senator announced his decision by releasing a statement after senators finished a long question-and-answer session with the House Democrats prosecuting the charges and Trump's lawyers defending the president. It's a career-capping move by the 79-year-old lawmaker and former governor with a centrist streak in GOP politics.

At the same time, another key Republican, Sen. Susan Collins of Maine, said she would vote for more witnesses, but it would take four GOP senators to break with the majority and join with Democrats to tip the outcome.

Alexander, Collins and Lisa Murkowski of Alaska were playing an oversized role in the final hours of debate with pointed questions ahead of crucial votes.

See **IMPEACHMENT** on A5 ►

John Roberts declined to read a question that could have outed the whistleblower.

WHAT'S NEXT
A Senate vote is expected late afternoon Friday on whether to call witnesses in the trial.

CAMPAIGN 2020

Senators get caucus curveball

Impeachment handcuffs Klobuchar, other Dems before first key vote

Story by PATRICK CONDON
Photos by GLEN STUBBE
Star Tribune staff

DES MOINES – With the Iowa presidential caucus just a few days off, Democratic rivals Joe Biden and Pete Buttigieg were in full campaign mode Thursday at a time when Sens. Amy Klobuchar, Bernie Sanders and Elizabeth Warren were trapped in Washington embroiled in the impeachment drama surrounding President Donald Trump.

As Iowans prepare to caucus Monday night, the nation's political spotlight has swept into the Hawkeye State. Trump held a rally in Des Moines on Thursday night, and Biden and Buttigieg were popping up everywhere.

"He's more bully than president," Biden said of Trump on Thursday morning in a speech to a crowded gymnasium in Waukee. "And he's having an incredibly divisive effect on our country."

Buttigieg, vying with Klobuchar and Biden for the support of moderate Democrats, positioned himself as a Washington outsider at a town hall meeting in Ames on Wednesday afternoon.

"Watching what's happening with the impeachment, watching what's happening in the Senate — it gets you down," said Buttigieg, who like Klobuchar has been trying to sell his Midwestern background to Iowans. "It makes you want to watch cartoons instead."

For Klobuchar, the break in the action couldn't come at a more inconvenient time. As more Iowa Democrats make up their minds, she's shown signs of fresh momentum: A statewide poll released Sunday night showed Klobuchar in third place — her best showing to date.

"My mom has a commitment right now," the Minnesota senator's daughter, Abigail Bessler, told a small group at a "Hot Dish House Party" on Wednesday night in Council Bluffs. By Thursday, Klobu-

See **CANDIDATES** on A8 ►

PERSUADING IOWA
Pete Buttigieg, at top, held a town hall meeting on Wednesday in Ames, Iowa. Meanwhile, Sen. Amy Klobuchar's daughter, Abigail Bessler, middle, led a series of "Hot Dish House Parties" in towns across the state. Joe Biden, above, held an event in Waukee, Iowa.

8 major emitters of toxin identified

The MPCA is rethinking how to handle air permits.

By JENNIFER BJORHUS
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After the revelation last year that White Bear Township manufacturer Water Gremlin pumped tons of a carcinogen into the air for more than a decade, Minnesota pollution regulators have tried to determine who emits the dangerous pollutant and how much.

The troubling reality underlying the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's new legislative update on trichloroethylene, called TCE, is that the MPCA still doesn't know the scope of the problem.

Not all TCE emitters have applied for pollution permits, and most air pollution permits don't contain specific TCE-related limitations, the update said. Instead the state lumps together volatile organic compounds, of which TCE is one.

The brief report contains the first public findings since the state Legislature gave the MPCA $700,000 last spring for a two-year project to assess statewide TCE use after the Water Gremlin pollution scandal.

TCE remains in wide use

See **TOXIC** on A8 ►

86 facilities: MPCA assessed dozens of businesses that use or generate the toxic chemical.

At least twice the limit: Eight were likely emitting double or even 95 times the limit.

Big uptick: Old watch worth $700K

By PAUL WALSH
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David was among nearly 3,000 others who showed up for an "Antiques Roadshow" tour stop in West Fargo with items to be appraised in hopes of striking it rich.

The Rolex watch David had with him was as new as the day he bought it more than 40 years ago. Never once did he put it on his wrist.

The military veteran soon left the Bonanzaville history museum complex under security escort and with a truly staggering estimate of what the Swiss-made watch could bring at auction: Up to $700,000.

Now that rare Rolex, a model made famous a half-century ago by Hollywood legend Paul Newman, is making an internet

See **WATCH** on A8 ►

U.S. urges no travel to China over virus fear

By KEN MORITSUGU
Associated Press

BEIJING – The U.S. advised against all travel to China on Friday after the World Health Organization (WHO) declared a global emergency over the outbreak of a new virus that has spread to more than a dozen countries. The number of cases spiked more than tenfold in a week, including the highest death toll in a 24-hour period reported on Friday.

The State Department's travel advisory told Americans now in China to consider departing using commercial means and requested that all non-essential U.S. government personnel defer travel "in light of the novel coronavirus."

"Travelers should be prepared for travel restrictions to be put into effect with little or no advance notice. Commercial carriers have reduced or suspended routes to and from China," it said.

See **VIRUS** on A5 ►

AREK RATAJ • Associated Press
Some people in Wuhan in central China's Hubei Province have taken to wearing face masks as a precaution.